



25 New Fellows join the PAWLP Family



New Bucks County TCs

Twenty-five new teacher consultants representing 11 area school districts and two private schools joined over 1,100 other outstanding area educators who have attended a Summer Institute sponsored by the Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Project.

The 2011 class includes Katherine Barham, Matthew Bloome, Brittany Carlino, Lynn Cashell, Cynthia Claffey, Irma Colven, Lorraine Crane,



New WCU TCs

Pam DeMartino, Sue Dering, Tricia Ebarvia, Kathleen Egan, Andrew Giorgi, Jaclyn Gruber, Esther Hoffner, Bethany Hunter, Brian Kelley, Kelly Mulhern, Phil Nichols, Susan O'Brien, Sarah Ortiz, Elizabeth Schenck, Patricia Schmidt, Ben Smith, Katie Subach, and Barbara Wade.

Anyone interested in applying to a 2012 summer Institute should contact the PAWLP Office at 610-436-2202 or e-mail Sally Malarney at smalarney@wcupa.edu.

FROM THE DIRECTOR, ANDREA FISHMAN

This is my last column as Director of PAWLP.

After 21 years - seven as associate director and 14 as director - it's hard for me to write out loud that I'm stepping down. Though I will continue to serve on the PAWLP leadership team, to work as a consultant, even to have the same email address as before, it seems important to reflect on my experience, on what I've learned in the past two decades here.

When people not familiar with our Project ask me what, exactly, it is that I do, some days I want to respond, "Oh, I herd cats." Think about it: my job is to "direct" this group of articulate, smart, talented, strong-willed, often opinionated professionals. There has to be a better title for what it is I do.

I've played with a variety of metaphors and similes, trying to figure out what this job *is* by thinking about what it's like. Is my relationship to the Project like a conductor's to her orchestra? A coach to her team? A gardener to her garden? An architect to her builders? Sometimes, perhaps, each of these, but never often enough to be any one in particular. The problem each of these possibilities share is that the leader in each case is too visible, too central, too controlling. At the end of the day, I don't seem to be any of these things. In fact, the only commentary on leadership that seems to reflect the reality of this job as I've experienced it, comes from an ancient Chinese philosopher, Lao Tzu, who said,

"When the best leader's work is done, the people say, 'We did it ourselves'." And that is the truth of our Project: at the end of the day, whatever we've accomplished, we've accomplished together. We did it ourselves.

In truth, though a Writing Project site is started by a director and codirector who really are conducting, gardening, building, and coaching, there comes a time that those initial leaders need to step back - do the meta - on who else is there and what kind of culture best reflects the values, attitudes, and beliefs of that group in that setting. It seemed clear to me in 1997 that our culture was not one that needed a "director" any more, but rather was a culture that, left to its own devices, would self-direct

in all the most important ways.

It wasn't until my sabbatical in 2006, that I came across a lovely, elegant way of expressing exactly what our cultural devices seem to be. It was the first year of Mind the Gap, the achievement-gap-focused program Judy Jester so brilliantly named. And I was reading, *Can We Talk About Race?* by Beverly Daniel Tatum. In that book, Tatum briefly discusses what she calls "the ABC approach to creating inclusive classrooms": A - affirming identity; B - building community; and C - cultivating leadership. Think about those practices: affirming identity, building community, cultivating leadership. Add to that the D - developing literacy - and you've got us. That is what we do because that is who we are.

We are people who affirm identity. We know that what matters most is thinking together, not thinking alike. PAWLP is not about incestuous amplification; it's about inquiry, about reflective practitioners who value each other's perspectives, help each other discover new truths, then think together about the applications and implications of those discoveries for ourselves and for our students.

And to that end, we are master community builders. We know a strong community is where you start, where you stay, and where you return. We understand that the strength of community lies in its flexibility. We are here for each other, whatever that means, whatever it takes, whenever we're needed. And that includes our incredible office staff - Ann, Toni, and Sally. Always flexible, always there when any of us need them. I could not have done my job without them.

And we certainly cultivate leadership. Look at our ever-growing, ever changing list of courses, programs, and activities. If one of our Fellows says I've got an idea

for partnership with Longwood Gardens or the Michener Museum or the Brandywine Museum or The Highlands. Or someone says, What about a Youth program focused on Tolkien? Or what about a course just for math teachers? Or can we go after NWP's ELL grant or National Reading Initiative grant or Makers grant? Or what about digital literacy? Or popular mechanics? Or we need a website. And a Facebook page. And I just heard the most amazing speaker. Can we bring her for a PAWLP-Day? The answer is always yes. Go for it. Lead on. We're behind you all the way.

Look, too, at the roles our Fellows play not only in the Project, but in their districts, in their IUs, in the profession at large. We are leaders, every one.



And developing literacy - if that's not our alpha and omega, I don't know what is.

Now I have to make a foreground/background switch, to move from writing intellectually about who we are and what we do, to writing personally about who we are, what we do, and what it all means to me now. My impulse, of course, is to show instead of tell. But that would mean naming all those people with whom I've come into personal contact the past 21 years, noting particular connections we've had and how much each of you has meant to me. Of course, that's not possible here.

So I'm going to do something a writer should never do: I'm going to tell instead of show. I'm going to tell each of you to remember... *Remember* when

you and I solved that personal or professional or personal professional problem together. *Remember* when we discovered that amazing connection we have - that similarity we'd never have predicted and no one else would believe. *Remember* when we talked about politics, religion, district policy, what we heard on NPR, the last book we read, our latest family dramas, and teaching - all in the same conversation. *Remember* when we shared those "Aha!" moments or their "Oy veh!" counterparts. *Remember* when one of us had to say no to the other and how unhappy we both were. Then remember when we got to say yes to each other and were both absolutely delighted. *Remember* sharing that random thought or that intentional drink. *Remember* sharing those frustrations, those laughs, and sometimes those tears. I do. I remember. And there are no words to show or tell what those moments and memories mean to me.

The next From the Director column will be written by our soon-to-be-former associate director, Mary Buckelew. I've had the joy and privilege of calling Mary my partner for the past twelve years. We've grown together, learned from each other, and even co-written a book, which stands as testament to the journey we have truly shared. I like to think we've brought out the best in each other. I know I've become a better me for having Mary as my partner in this adventure we call PAWLP.

It feels as though I should be turning over some reins. Or a gavel. Or passing a baton. But in the world of our Rosedale location, what I get to turn over is the big office. The one with the conference table. The place where the director can always say, "Let's sit. Let's talk. Let's be who we are together. And while we're at it, let's make this world a better place."

3 graduate
credits

Fall Courses

PAWLP Classroom, WCU

Teacher as Writer, K—12 PWP 502-01

Tuesdays, 4:15—7:00

August 30 - December 6

Coordinators: Diane Dougherty/Don LaBranche

Formative Assessment in the English Language Arts Classroom, 5 - 12 PWP 511-80

Wednesdays, 4:15 - 7:00 p.m.

August 31 - December 7

Coordinator: Andrea Fishman

Nonfiction in the Writing/Reading

Classroom, K—8 PWP 599-03

Two weekends: Oct. 14—16 + Dec. 2 - 4

Fridays, 6:00—9:00 p.m.

Saturdays/Sundays, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Coordinators: Lynne Dorfman/Pat Smith

Classroom Inquiry: Follow-Through Class

for all Fellows PWP 512-01*

Saturdays: Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, from 9:00 a.m. - noon, plus a 1/2 day Spring Saturday date TBD

Wednesdays: Oct. 5 + 26, Nov. 9, Dec. 7, from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Coordinators: Sandy Connelly/Janice Ewing

For Fellows of any Institute year.

**\$500 stipend from the National Writing Project for this course.*

Bucks County IU, Doylestown

Reading Essentials, 2 - 8 PWP 599-01

Two weekends: Oct. 7 - 9 + Nov. 3, 5, and 6

Friday 10/7 + Thursday 11/3, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays/Sundays, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

+ 5 independent hours

Coordinators: Chris Kehan/Angela Watters

Includes workshops with Steven Layne on Nov.5

Units of Study in the Writing

Workshop, 2 - 8

PWP 599-02

Thursdays, 5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Oct. 27, Nov. 10, Dec. 1, Jan. 5 + 26, Feb. 16,

March 15, April 12 + 26

Saturday March 3, 2012, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

+ 5.5 independent hours

Coordinators: Chris Kehan/Angela Watters

Classroom Inquiry: Follow-Through Class

for all Fellows PWP 512-02*

Mondays: Oct. 10 + 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, Jan. 9 + 30, Feb. 13, March 19, from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., with an on-line component and independent study.

Coordinators: Chris Kehan/Maryellen Kenney

For Fellows of any Institute year.

**\$500 stipend from the National Writing Project for this course.*



Register on-line at www.pawlp.org

Please register at least two weeks prior to course start date.

Tuition and fees

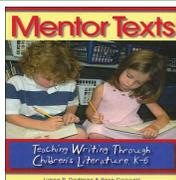
on-campus: \$1,510.77/off-campus: \$1,446.00
(out-of-state residents higher)

For information call Sally Malarney at
610-436-2202

or e-mail smalarney@wcupa.edu

PAWLP Fellows receive a \$200 stipend for one course each semester.

Fall Workshops



Saturday Seminar

September 10, 8:00 a.m. - 12:35 p.m.
Main Hall, 720 South High Street, WCU
Keynote:



Mentor Texts: Writing Across the Day

with Lynne Dorfman and Rose Cappelli

Also featuring two breakout sessions with PAWLP Fellows, a Continuity Session for Fellows of the Project, and a drawing for professional books.

Donations will be accepted for refreshments and the Youth Programs Scholarship fund \$10 to have WCU record Act 48 hours

Attn: PAWLP Fellows

There will be a double break-out session to kick-off our National Writing Project initiative

PAWLP MAKES!

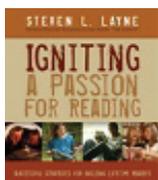
Participants will:

- ✿ Choose from a variety of projects to make
- ✿ Experience first-hand the process of making
- ✿ Write about the making process
- ✿ Reflect on additional writing possibilities
- ✿ Find out more about the PAWLP Makes 2011/2012 Grant

*Space is limited.
Reserve your space
in this workshop by
September 1.
Call 610-436-2202*

Igniting a Passion for Reading

Energetic author and award-winning educator Dr. Steven L. Layne promises a seminar to delight, empower and motivate teachers and librarians who are interested in bridging the literacy gap. The entertainment options available to young people in our fast-paced society are ever on the increase. What are we, as educators, doing to make reading books more appealing? Who's responsible for "keeping the reading lamp lit" for our young people today? Teachers - of every content area and grade level can play a part - as well as the library staff. The kids are rarely our students for only a year. In some ways, they'll be our students forever, and we care about their future. This seminar will offer practical ideas for every classroom that will keep kids reading and loving books. Great titles - old and new - will be highlighted for all grade levels.



Date: Saturday, November 5, 2011

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Bucks County IU, Doylestown

Cost: General Public \$100/PAWLP Fellows \$80

Add \$10 to have Act 48 hours reported by WCU

Registration and payment must be received by October 21

Limited enrollment

Register for these workshops on-line at www.pawlp.org (Click on Coming Events)

For more information call 610-436-2202 or e-mail smalarney@wcupa.edu.

Special: Register 3 or more from the same district at the same time and get a \$10 discount for each person!

New Opportunity: Earn 1 graduate credit by attending two full-day PAWLP Saturday events.

Contact the PAWLP office for details.

Spring Conference



To Understand Our Readers and Writers

with

Ellin Keene

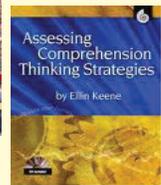
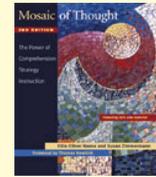
author of

Mosaic of Thought, To Understand, and Assessing Comprehension Strategies

April 28, 2012

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location in Bucks County TBD



Details on our website at www.wcupa.edu

Spring Courses

Strategies for Teaching Literature, 4 - 12

PWP 520-01

Tuesdays, January 24 - May 1

Time: 4:15 - 7:00 p.m.

Coordinator: Diane Dougherty

Location: PAWLP Classroom, WCU

Literacy in Bloom: Botanical Inspiration for Reading, Writing, and Learning, K - 12

PWP 510-01

5 Saturdays, January 21, February 4 + 25, March 17, April 14. Snow dates March 3 + April 21

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Coordinator: Patty Koller

Location: Longwood Gardens

Comprehension Connections: The Power of Comprehension Strategy Instruction, 2 - 8

PWP 599-01

Wednesdays: Feb. 22, March 7, April 4
5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, March 23, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays/Sunday, March 24 + 25, April 28

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., plus 6 independent hours

This course includes the conference with Ellin Keene

Coordinators: Chris Kehan and Angela Watters

Location: Bucks County IU, Doylestown

*Other courses may be added
Check our website or call 610-436-2202
for additional spring courses.*

3 graduate credits from West Chester University

Tuition and fees: on-campus \$1,510.77/ off-campus \$1,446.00
(out-of-state residents higher)

Register on-line at www.pawlp.org

or e-mail smalarney@wcupa.edu for a registration form

Registration must be received at least two weeks prior to course start date.

PAWLP Fellows receive a \$200 stipend for one course each semester.

Wondrous Words for Your Readers and Writers

Katie Wood Ray shared her passion for best practices with over one hundred teachers at the most recent PAWLP Bucks Literacy Conference in April. Teachers had the unique opportunity to hear Katie speak on three different topics throughout the day. Her keynote addressed the essentials of writing workshop, her breakout provided a framework for planning a unit of study, and her closing offered an understanding of the craft of writing. In addition to hearing Katie Wood Ray share best practices, teachers chose

from a variety of topics on the teaching of reading or writing that were offered by PAWLP Fellows.

Katie Wood Ray shared her passion for writing. She left us thinking about how writing is different from other types of work and that kids need to learn to make something out of nothing. Time is needed for this type of work, and this work is important. Good



Katie Wood Ray (center) with conference committee members Heather Kehoe, Chris Kehan, Angela Watters, and Dana Lupinacci

writing begins with vision. She posed a simple, yet powerful question: “What have you read that is like what you are trying to write?” Her words stayed with many as they went back to their classrooms on that following Monday.

Join us for upcoming PAWLP events in November when Steven Layne will be *Igniting a Passion for Reading* and in April of 2012 when Elin Keene and PAWLP Fellows will help us *To Understand Our Readers and Writers*.

Travel to Italy

with PAWLP Fellows and Friends!

Join PAWLP Fellows and friends on a fabulous trip to Italy. We will read, write, eat, and sight-see from Venice, Florence, Sorrento, and the Isle of Capri to Rome. All travel arrangements made by ACIS, the American Council of International Studies. This trip is open to all PAWLP Fellows, their spouses, and friends.

- **May 21 - June 2, 2012**
- Pay deposit of \$195 by September 15 to secure special rate of \$5,359
- Price may vary from rate quoted above for registrations received after Sept. 15
- A variety of payment options are available through ACIS
- Graduate course credit/ Act 48 hour available (additional fees apply)

*On sabbatical in 2012?
Retired?*

This may be the trip for you!



**For information and itinerary contact Mary Buckelew:
mbuckelew@wcupa.edu
610-436-2998**

KUDOS

Maria Banks, '95 Bucks Writing, co-authored a book entitled *PLCs, DI, & RTI: A Tapestry for School Change*, published by Corwin Press in June.

Kate Walton, '06 WC Writing, co-authored a book entitled *Teaching Numeracy: 9 Critical Habits to Ignite Mathematical Thinking*, published by Corwin Press in March.

Carrie Hagen, '00 Bucks Writing, had her historical narrative non-fiction book entitled *We Is Got Him*, chosen as a Notable Summer Book by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.



Teacher Tips

by Diane Dougherty, Co-Director for Continuity

Teachers never really have a summer vacation. I read somewhere that summer is like a weekend. June is Friday; July is Saturday, and August is Sunday. In June we feel relaxed; in July we start thinking about our coming school year; and in August we get down to planning and anticipating and worrying about September. In addition most of us take courses and workshops to improve our skills and to become better teachers. So, when you read this column and hear me say that now's the time to catch up on your reading and writing, you may well respond, "Are you kidding? Who has the time?"

Teachers who write are better teachers of writing than those who only assign writing; teachers who read are better teachers of literature and reading than those who only assign novels to be read. We know this is the philosophy of the National Writing Project and we know these are true statements. I'd like to give you another way to look at your reading and writing. Think of it as a gift you give to yourself. Read for pleasure, read to find out what the critics are talking about, and read to appreciate the beauty of language. Similarly, write to find out what you think, write to discover what you know, and write to play with words and language.

Here are some books that I've enjoyed recently and I'd like to recommend:

The Story of Edgar Sawtelle by David Wroblewski (two years old, but I've re-read it-parallels to *Hamlet* and so beautifully written you'll be able to find multiple examples to share with students or to emulate in your own writing)

Loving Frank by Nancy Horan (The

love story of Mamah Boothwick and Frank Lloyd Wright, another oldie) *Wolf Hall* by Marilyn Harnet (Historical fiction about the rivalry between Thomas Cromwell and Thomas More in the court of Henry VIII)

The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein (Told from the point of view of a dog, but you don't have to like dogs to enjoy this book)

Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann (Intertwined stories taking place in 1974 during Philip Petit's tightrope walk 110 stories between the twin towers and again on September 11, 2001)

The Imperfectionists by Tom Rachman (Connected stories of the personnel past and present, of a dying English print newspaper set in Rome)

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese (A story not only of family love and strife but also political turmoil in Ethiopia, with a detour to the U.S.)

Unbroken by Lauren Hillenbrand (Nonfiction account of a riveting life. An Olympic runner is captured by the Japanese in WWII and survives to tell his story)

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson (Charming tale of manners set in the British countryside)

Looking for Salvation at the Dairy Queen by Susan Gregg Gilmore (Narrator has an eye for detail and the descriptions are priceless)

Noah's Compass by Ann Tyler (need I say more?)

Of course, everyone's reading the Steig Larson books: *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, *The Girl Who Played with Fire*, and *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest* and I've enjoyed them too. You might try Lee Child or Carl Hias-

san or Dennis Lehane. If you like romance try Kate Morton's *The Forgotten Garden* and *The House at Riverton*. For studying the Holocaust I'd recommend *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay and *Skeletons at the Feast* by Chris Bohjolan. Treatment of American Japanese in WWII provides the plot of *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford. If you teach Romeo and Juliet, you might like *Juliet* by Anne Fortier. Tony Early has written two lovely books that take place in a small town in North Carolina in the early 1930's: *Jim, the Boy* and *Blue Star*. The important thing is to give yourself the gift of reading. As C. B. Jenkins says, "The life of a book is in the hands of the reader, not the author." Happy reading (and writing).

Reaching and Teaching Everyone in Your Literacy Environment

Please join Mary Buckelew and Andy Fishman, co-authors of *Reaching and Teaching Diverse Populations: Strategies for Moving Beyond Stereotypes*, at the Delaware Valley Reading Association meeting on Saturday, October 15, 9:00 - 11:45 a.m.

Location: Williamson Restaurant, Easton and Blair Mill Roads, Horsham, PA

Cost: \$15 for Tri-County members/\$20 for non-members/\$10 for full-time undergraduate students.

For registration information go to www.dvra.org



**The Pennsylvania Writing
and Literature Project**
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West Chester, PA 19383

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Sign up for the electronic *Newsletter* on our website at www.pawlp.org

THE PENNSYLVANIA WRITING AND LITERATURE PROJECT

<p>Director Andrea Fishman</p> <p>Associate Director Mary Buckelew</p> <p>PAWLP Staff Ann Mascherino Toni Kershaw Sally Malarney</p>	<p>Co-Directors High School and In-service Development: Vicki Steinberg</p> <p>Middle School: Judy Jester</p> <p>Elementary School: Debbie Dinsmore</p> <p>Summer Courses: Teresa Moslak and Chris Kehan</p> <p>Institutes and Presentation Development: Brenda Krupp</p> <p>Literature: Patty Koller</p> <p>Technology: Diane Barrie</p> <p>Public Relations: Lynne Dorfman</p> <p>Summer Youth Administration: Karen Pawlewicz</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Project <i>Newsletter</i> is published several times a year by and for those affiliated with the Project. Submissions are always welcome and can be mailed to the Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Project, West Chester University, West Chester, PA, 19383.</p> <p>Phone: 610-436-2202 Fax: 610-436-3212 www.pawlp.org</p>
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